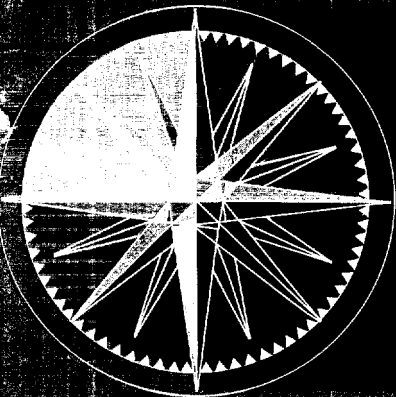


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SPECIAL REPORT

CUBAN TRAINING AND SUPPORT FOR AFRICAN NATIONALISTS

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CUBAN TRAINING AND SUPPORT FOR AFRICAN NATIONALISTS

The complicity of Cuban-trained elements in the recent Zanzibar coup points up Cuban interest in African affairs and support of subversive groups that dates back more than two years. Since 1961, Cuba has been providing training in guerrilla warfare, political indoctrination, and subversive techniques--as well as academic instruction--to nationals of the sub-Saharan states of Africa. Havana has also organized acts of "solidarity," provided offices in Havana for rebel groups, and furnished propaganda materials to be distributed abroad. There is no evidence, however, to indicate that Cuba has taken a hand in drawing up specific plans or organizing actions for the overthrow of any African government.

Scholarship Program

Fidel Castro in effect announced his policy in a public address in June 1961, when he stated that his government would grant 100 scholarships for the next school term to "students" from outside Latin America. He said his purpose was to equip them to take part in the "construction of socialism" in their home countries. This program has been continued, and available information suggests that most, if not all, of the participants have come from Africa.

East Africa

Nationals from the countries of East Africa, especially Zanzibar, appear to predominate among groups which have received training in Cuba. The appointment of a new Cuban ambassador to Tanganyika who reportedly has experience in the training of guerrilla fighters may indicate continued Cuban emphasis on this part of the continent.

Cuba has maintained ties with Zanzibari subversive elements for several years. A three-man office of the Zanzibar Nationalist Party (ZNP) opened in Havana in September 1961. Soon afterward Havana radio broadcast a strongly anti-US interview with the group, and a Zanzibari leftist newspaper claimed that the leader had spent an hour with the Cuban foreign minister.

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In mid-1962, eleven Zanzibaris left for military training in Cuba and returned from there during late 1962 and early 1963. In April 1963, Ali M. Mohamed, who had been heading the Havana office of the ZNP, stated that 20 Zanzibaris were still in Cuba.

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This December, a Tanganyikan official met 3 new arrivals from Cuba; as many as 20 Cuban-trained nationals reportedly arrived home that month. John Okello, "Field Marshal" of the new regime, is believed to have returned to Zanzibar then after more than 18 months of training in Cuba.

[REDACTED] 25X1

Cuba has provided similar support to a number of other African subversive elements during the past three years. In October 1962, one member of a group of Angolans completing a year of studies in Cuba stated that eight months of this course had been devoted to guerrilla warfare and four months to Communist political orientation. He also asserted that Fidel Castro had personally lectured to his group. At least one Angolan was known to be in Havana in February 1963 when he participated in an "act of solidarity" for the Angolan guerrillas, a function sponsored by the Cuban University Students' Federations. 25X1

Southern Africa

Cuba has also singled out subversive elements in the Republic of South Africa as recipients of a considerable amount of guidance and training. The Communist-influenced African National Congress (ANC) of South Africa reportedly has maintained an office in Havana since 1961. In May 1963, Castro was reportedly giving "personal consideration" to the question of granting material aid to the ANC. Several South African students were in Havana in July 1963 when they were guests at a "Week of Solidarity With South Africa." [REDACTED]

Charles Chikerema, a Southern Rhodesian African and brother of nationalist leader James Chikerema, may also have received training in Cuba. 25X1

West Africa

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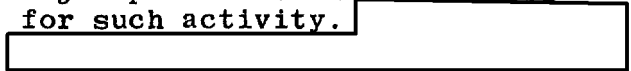
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The governments of Mali and Guinea have sent students to Cuba for academic studies. In 1961, Mali announced that it had been granted 50 scholarships for study there. Guinea announced in October 1961 that 25 Guinean students had received scholarships for "intermediate technical studies" in public works in Cuba. Cuba's diplomatic ties with Ghana suggest that training opportunities have also been provided for nationals from that country.

Outlook

The events in Zanzibar may encourage the Castro regime to increase its assistance to African rebel groups. The Cuban program appears to have demonstrated thus far a potential for contributing to over-all Communist objectives in Africa. However, Havana will most likely continue to regard Latin America as its priority target for subversion and continue to allocate to this area the major portion of its resources for such activity.



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